## **CLAIMS**

## We Claim:

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:
- a polymer-based material; and
- a plurality of magnetically aligned magnetic material particles in said polymer-
- based material that form an electrically conductive path through a part of said polymer-
- 5 based material.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said polymer-based material is selected from
- a group consisting of conductive polymers, thermoplastic polymers, and thermoset
- 3 polymers.
- The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said polymer-based material is a polyamide.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said polymer-based material is an ultra-violet
- 2 light curable epoxy.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said magnetic material is selected from a
- group consisting of ferro-magnetic metal, a magnetic ceramic, and a ferro-electric
- 3 material.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus is comprised of approximately
- 2 40 percent by weight polymer-based material and approximately 60 percent by weight
- 3 magnetic material particles.

- 7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said magnetic material particles are acicular
- 2 shaped.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said polymer-based material is a photo-resist
- 2 material.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said magnetic material particles are to form
- 2 part of the electrically conductive path from a component to an underlying substrate.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein dimensions of the magnetic material particles
- are approximately one micron by two microns by ten microns.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said magnetic material is selected from a
- 2 group consisting of iron, barium strontium titanate, strontium tantalum oxide, and
- 3 peroskovites.
- 1 12. A method comprising:
- mixing a composition of magnetic material particles and a polymer-based
- 3 material;
- depositing said composition onto a first component;
- placing a second component onto said first component at a site of the deposited
- 6 composition;
- applying a magnetic field to said composition, to form an aligned path of said
- magnetic material particles and to bend said aligned path of magnetic material particles

- 9 to form part of a conductive path between said first component and said second
- 10 component; and
- solidifying said polymer-based material.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12 further comprising putting said composition through a
- screen before said depositing.
- 14. The method of claim 13 wherein said putting includes using a squeegee.
- 1 15. The method of claim 12 further comprising pre-coating said first component
- before said depositing.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said pre-coating comprises applying a thin
  - 2 layer of said composition.
  - 1 17. The method of claim 12 further comprising testing the conductive path between
  - said first component and said second component.
  - 1 18. The method of claim 12 wherein said solidifying includes applying an ultra-
  - violet light to said composition.
  - 1 19. The method of claim 12 wherein solidifying includes changing said polymer-
  - based material's temperature.
  - 1 20. The method of claim 12 wherein said polymer-based material is solidified and
  - said magnetic field is applied at approximately a same time.

- 1 21. The method of claim 12 wherein applying a magnetic field includes using the
- magnetic field from a metallic surface to bend the aligned path.
- 1 22. The method of claim 12 wherein mixing includes mixing the composition of
- magnetic material particles having dimensions of approximately one micron by two
- microns by ten microns.
- 1 23. A system comprising:
- a substrate;
- a component coupled to said substrate; and
- a composition of magnetic material particles and a polymer-based material
- coupled to said component and said substrate
- 1 24. The system of claim 23 further comprising screen pads coupled to said
- 2 substrate.
- 1 25. The system of claim 23 wherein said magnetic material particles include a
- 2 conductive path between said component and said substrate.
- 1 26. The system of claim 23 wherein said substrate is selected from a group
- consisting of printable circuit boards, aluminum lead frames, and fine pitch ball grid
- 3 arrays.

- 1 27. The system of claim 23 wherein said composition is comprised of
- approximately 40 percent by weight of the polymer-based material and approximately
- 3 60 percent by weight of the magnetic material particles.
- 1 28. The system of claim 23 wherein said magnetic material particles are acicular
- shaped.
- 1 29. The system of claim 23 wherein said polymer-based material is a photo-resist
- 2 material.
- 1 30. The system of claim 23 wherein a coefficient of thermal expansion of the
- polymer-based material is approximately equal to a coefficient of thermal expansion of
- 3 the substrate.